Response to Office Action dated November 13, 2008

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:** 

Claims 1-9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): An image processing method that utilizes either of shooting information representing a shooting condition of image data and image processing control information for specifying an image processing condition of the image data reflecting an image output property of an output apparatus, either of which is related to the image data, as image processing information and thereby makes the image data subjected to a series of image processing in an image processing apparatus, said image processing method comprising:

acquiring the image data;

retrieving either of the shooting information and the image processing control information, either of which is related to the acquired image data from an image data generating apparatus that is a separate body independent from the image processing apparatus; and

in the case of successful retrieval of the image processing control information, executing the series of image processing of the image data according to the image processing control information, while in the case of failed retrieval of the image processing control information, executing the series of image processing of the image data, based on the shooting information, and

in the case of failed retrieval of both the image processing control information and the shooting information, executing the series of image processing of the image data according to default image processing control information, which is general-purpose image processing information set for preset image data, wherein

the image processing control information includes at least one of a color space matrix value used for image processing, a contrast adjustment-related parameter, and a sharpness adjustment-related parameter, and

the shooting information includes at least one of parameters relating to an exposure correction value at the time of shooting, a light source, and white balance.

Claim 11 (Original): An image processing method in accordance with claim 10, said image processing method further comprising:

in the case of successful retrieval of the image processing information, not executing retrieval of the shooting information.

## Claim 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Original): An image processing method in accordance with claim 10, wherein the executing the image processing to the image data is carried out by converting at least part of the shooting information into image processing control information and executing the series of image processing of the image data according to the converted image processing control information.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): An image processing apparatus that utilizes either of shooting information representing a shooting condition of image data and image processing control information for specifying an image processing condition of the image data reflecting an image output property of an output apparatus, either of which is related to the image data, as image processing information and thereby makes the image data subjected to a series of image processing, said image processing apparatus comprising:

an image data acquisition unit that acquires the image data;

an image processing information retrieval unit that retrieves either of the shooting information and the image processing control information, either of which is related to the acquired image data from an image data generating apparatus that is a separate body independent from the image processing apparatus; and

an image processing unit that, in the case of successful retrieval of the image processing control information, executes the series of image processing of the image data according to the image processing control information, while in the case of failed retrieval of the image processing control information, executes the series of image processing of the image data, based on the shooting information, and in the case of failed retrieval of both the image processing control information and the shooting information, executes the series of image processing of the image data according to default image processing control information, which is general-purpose image processing information set for preset image data, wherein

the image processing control information includes at least one of a color space matrix value used for image processing, a contrast adjustment-related parameter, and a sharpness adjustment-related parameter, and

the shooting information includes at least one of parameters relating to an exposure correction value at the time of shooting, a light source, and white balance

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable storage medium having an image processing program stored thereon, said image processing program causing a computer to utilize either of shooting information representing a shooting condition of image data and image processing control information for specifying an image processing condition of the image data reflecting an image output property of an output apparatus, either of which is related to the image data, as image processing information and thereby make the image data subjected to a series of image processing in an image processing apparatus, said image processing program comprising:

a program command that acquires the image data;

a program command that retrieves either of the shooting information and the image processing control information, either of which is related to the acquired image data from an image data generating apparatus that is a separate body independent from the image processing apparatus; and

a program command that, in the case of successful retrieval of the image processing control information, executes the series of image processing of the image data according to the image processing control information, while in the case of failed retrieval of the image processing control information, executing executes the series of image processing of the image data, based on the shooting information, and in the case of failed retrieval of both the image processing control information and the shooting information, executes the series of image processing of the image data according to default image processing control information, which is general-purpose image processing information set for preset image data, wherein

the image processing control information includes at least one of a color space matrix value used for image processing, a contrast adjustment-related parameter, and a sharpness adjustment-related parameter, and

the shooting information includes at least one of parameters relating to an exposure correction value at the time of shooting, a light source, and white balance.

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Claims 16-30 (Canceled).